



January 20, 2020

Chief David Grunes
Bedford Fire
55 The Great Rd
Bedford, MA 01730

Dear Chief Grunes,

As a follow up to your request we have conducted a comprehensive review of the available Fire Station documentation. We are providing our updated review of the current site conditions and future expansion options for the Bedford Fire Department. As you are aware, multiple site studies and building assessments have been completed for the Department. All are consistent in the fact that a new station is needed.

The purpose of this summary is to identify and update the needs that are imperative for the successful operation of the Bedford Fire Department. The information contained herein is intended to provide the necessary background to support the design and recommendations presented over the past several years and to provide information to decision makers that could impact the status of the current Station and any ensuing projects.

To date the existing station has adequately served the Town. However, technical advances in firefighting equipment, the expansion of the quantity of firefighters and population growth have severely strained the ability of the existing building to perform its obligation to the Town.


The most crucial deficiency within the existing facility is the apparatus bay. It is insufficiently sized to accommodate all of the current Fire Department's apparatus as well as the associated ancillary storage spaces. To make the most of the existing bay, some of the apparatus is parked outside and exposed to the weather or cycled between the apparatus bay and the DPW facility. The minimal amount of space between apparatus creates a bottleneck and a potential hazard for responding firefighters.

There is too much circulation between areas, insufficient storage areas, many different levels that are not accessible from each other and no isolation of public spaces from the rest of the fire station. Consequently, the utilization and location of spaces within the station is impacting the internal response time of the facility.

Based on the programmatic needs of the department, the current station needs to be expanded or replaced. The space need studies have shown a minimum lot size of 60,000 square feet is required. This proposed lot size will accommodate the new station and its required footprint. The current station sits on a 30,000 square feet lot. The lot is inadequate and therefore eliminates the option for expansion of the facility on its current site. Relocation of the Fire Department is the recommended option.

Very truly yours,

Saccoccio & Associates, Inc

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several overlapping, slanted strokes that form a stylized, somewhat abstract representation of the name Mark Saccoccio.

Mark Saccoccio AIA/NCARB